An incident characteristic of Uncle Sam' sailor boys occurred the other day. A young tar, whose ship was lying at the navy yard, was out seeing the town. He was taking a rather wobbly course course down Pennsylvania avenue, and the way he "tacked" from one side of the pavement to the other would have made the captain of a cup challenger green with envy. Judging from appearances his "ship" must have sprung aleak and took in a lot of "sea," but apparently it was not all bilge water he had aboard. In fact, Jacky had a pretty good-sized jag on.

At 8th street he ran into a group of small boys, one of whom was crying. "W'at sh matter, kid?" Jack asked.

"That nigger over there beat me," repiled the boy, pointing to a burly negro who was leaning against a tree on the opposite side of the street and looking sullenly on the group.
"Wat shay? That big coon hit a kid like you?" And he looked over at the negro in

"Come on!" And without waiting to find out why the boy had been hit he rolled up his sleeves and staggered across the street

with the youngsters following.

The negro straightened up as Jack approached. Without a word the tar pitched into him and for about five minutes there was such a mixture of black and blue that none of the spectators who had gathered

could see which was which.

It was a battle of Santiago without any loop movements and with the commander of the fleet and the whole fleet right on the spot. Finally the two broke away and the negro made a dash out 8th street that would have done credit to a Spanish admiral. Jack came out of the engagement with his clothing considerably ruffled, but with colors flying. After brushing off his uniform and wip-

ing the perspiration from his face he said:
"Well. kid, you satisfied?" The youngsters recovered from their surprise sufficiently to give him a rousing "Much obliged, kids! Excuse me now

I got to meet a couple of boys down town and get drunk. So long!" And off he went considerably sobered.

* * * * * In the terrific jam at the obsequies of President McKinley, at the Capitol, when there were a number of persons hurt, and clothes were torn in the unprecedented press, a woman's fine bonnet was destroyed by her husband. It appears that among the many Baltimoreans who came over to witness the funeral there was a gentleman and his wife, who had found a place in the line, passing up the steps to the retunda. The lady was handsomely costumed, and her hat, though "a thing of beauty," did not prove to be "a joy forever." To use an umbrella during the rain was impracticable, and it was not long bewoe-begone appearance, with drooping feathers and trimmings. Seeing the wreck of feminine trappins, the husband commenced to upraid his wife and she protested that she could not foresee the rain. She was horrified a little later when a wedged-in bystander called out that his collar was ruined by drippings from her hat, and he endeavored to move away. Then the husband looked and found that the delicate coloring of the feathers, which were of reddish hue, was spotting an immaculate collar and he said:

Why did you wear that thing? Take It You should have worn a plainer one "You wouldn't have me go bareheaded, would you?" she replied.
"You've got no business wearing your

best hat in such a crowd," he remarked somewhat sharply. "Take it off, I tell you! Don't you see you are ruining other people's clothing?" "I can't take it off; and, besides, what

an appearance will I make bareheaded out she protested. "Well, if you can't I will," he exclaimed. somewhat angrily, and in a jiffy he seized the obnoxious millinery, and with some ef-

fert dropped it under his feet. The now bareheaded wife colored up and would have backed out of the crowd if she could, but there was no retreat, and she, with her husband, went through the rotunda and viewed the remains.

"One of the most decided and quickest changes from a pronounced stand that ever came to my attention I noted in the case of my wife while we were on a vacation trip recently," remarked a well-known local official to a Star reporter. "Ever since we have been married Mrs. G. has been unalterably opposed to gambling in any form. The mere mention of the word caused her to shudder. While strolling about a summer resort a few weeks ago we passed one of those machines that bear a sign inviting

all who pass to drop a nickel in the slot. The inducement is the possibility of the coin dropped striking a channel that will

result in the dropper receiving an amount varying from \$1 to \$2.50 in nickels as a return from the investment. But the dropped coin follows a winning passage about once in a lifetime. "More for the sake of witnessing my

wife experience a momentary chill than for any other reason I suddenly halted in front

trying," she expostulated.
"You won't try with my money, though,"
I declared. Since this little occurrence Mrs.
G. has not discoursed on the evils of gam-

"I overheard some remarks at the Capitol the day President McKinley's body lay in state there that I have not forgotten." said an official of the treasury. "The push was something terrific, as everybody will women, white men and black men, were jostled closer together than they had ever friend: 'Why do they let these negroes come to an affair of this kind? They are so disagreeable to have near one. I wish they were away.' The remarks referred to come colored women who were close in line they were away.' The remarks referred to come colored women who were close in line behind the white women. The woman's remarks were overheard, and it was very interesting to listen to the reply of one of the colored women. 'Yes, we are negroes,' she said to the white woman, or rather in her direction, as the white woman had not intended for her remarks to reach the colespecially on such a sad occasion as this. It was not a negro who killed Lincoln, or fired

the bullet that laid Garfield low or put out

and there is no reproach on the negro race, at least in this direction.' It is needless to

say that the white women made no further

the life of McKinley. It was a white man

wearing his uniform with the insignia of his rank while on duty at the department. He keeps his uniform in his office and dons the late afternoon. He is the only officer of the army or navy who follows this custom at present, but it is possible that his example may be generally adopted in the near future. There is no order on the subject and General Corbin is simply acting on his individual judgment in the matter. During the Spanish war all officers of the army stationed in this city were required on, telling us to 'git out.' We told him to wear their uniform while on duty, regardless of its character, but after the war was over the practice lapsed into innocuous desuctude. Its revival by General Corbin in his own case is one of the results of his observations during his recent inspection of military conditions in the Philippines, China and Japan. In those places he saw that all the officers of the army of the United States as well as those of other armies, British, French, German, Russian Chinese, Japanese and others, invariably wore their uniforms while on duty whether in the field or in the office, and he became A conspicuous feature of General Corbin's uniform are the two stars in his shoulder straps which indicate his rank of major general.

An improved tide computer, one which foretells the ebb and flow of tides throughout the world and for all the future by mechanical instead of mental processes, is a recent acquisition of the United States coast and geodetic survey. It is an improvement on the tide computer invented by Sir William Thompson (now Lord Kelvin) and which is in use by the British government. The later mechanism was contrived by E. Terry, deceased, who was an employe of the coast and geodetic survey and a member of the American Academy of Sciences. The computer was constructed in the instrument shop of the survey, a big brick building which stands in the square bounded by New Jersey avenue South Capitol and B and C streets southeast. The cost of construction was \$3,500. Complicated calculations of tidal variations for any given time and at any place may by the turning of a crank which operates wheels and levers bewildering to the layman in mechanics, for instance, two years hence, September 28, 1903, a ship may be lying in the hill-encircled harbor of Acapulco. The navigator of that ship, by referring to his chart, will ascertain the depth of the harbor and the winding passage to the Pacific, or at least what pre-vious soundings have shown that depth to be. By reference to tables prepared by the tide computer he will ascertain what the est height, on the day, the morrow, or the day after. No mental process has been employed other than turning a crank, printing the tables thus prepared and reading the results presented by them.

People are quick enough to recognize the mantle of true greatness when it is a shroud.—Puck.

Surgeon-"Feet sore, eh? Where do they hurt you most?" Private-"Well, sir, it ain't so much when we're on the march; but when we're alted it's somethin' dreadful, sir." Surgeon-"Oh, indeed! Well, the next time you halt you just mark time!"-Punch.

"If poor Jack Haverly had been buried anywhere within reasonable distance of the District of Columbia I know one citizen thereof who'd have placed the finest wreath of memory and gratitude purchasable for money on his grave," remarked a well-known young real estate man a couple of days after the announcement of the death of the famous minstrel man who had won and lost a dozen fortunes. "And there are a couple of men in business in this town of my own age who'd doubtless have been glad to chip in for the purchase of the wreath.

"You remember what noble, preternaturally gorgeous beings the boys of a couple of decades or more ago considered minstrel men to be, don't you? Well, I had that, and had it bad. The circus was not in it with the minstrels, so far as I was con-cerned. I used to lie awake o' nights and dream of one day wearing a cream-colored sult, with frock coat, and a cream-colored of the machine I spoke of and parted with blug hat and patent leather shoes, and a 5-cent piece. Vastly to my surprise, twena 5-cent piece. Vastly to my surprise, twenty nickels slipped from the machine. The event of a lifetime had actually come to pass. But more remarkable was the transcession. I didn't want to be President of the United States, but I did sure long to be a black-face artist, and I used to organize and put through three or four min-strel shows per vacation in the shed back of my folks' house, in which I was interplaced all of it in the slot. She next called for more. Thereupon I protested.

"But I'll surely win \$2.50 if I keep on trying," she expostulated.

"You won't try with my money, though," I declared. Since this little occurrence Mrs.

I didn't want to be President of the United States, but I did sure long to be a black-face artist, and I used to organize and put through three or four min-strel shows per vacation in the shed back of my folks' house, in which I was interplaced at minimum and the shed back of the rest of the whole thing. I never missed a minimum this old town—'ud do anything to get held of the precessary quarter to pay get hold of the necessary quarter to pay for a seat in the gallery to see the min-strels. Say, I've swiped the lids off my mother's kitchen stove to add weight to the bunch of old iron junk I've collected to sell to the junk man to get the price of a minstrel ticket. "Well, when Haverly's Mastodon Min-

strels were billed to show at Ford's Opera House late in the seventies or very early remember, and white women and colored in the eighties there didn't seem to be women, white men and black men, were much doing in the way of my getting the price of a gallery seat. The ground was covered with snow, and so there was no been before. I heard a nicely dressed white chance of picking up enough iron junk to woman, who was just back of me, say to a friend: 'Why do they let these negroes schemes that I thought out looked in any way promising. The very day the minmy own age I was on hand outside the hotel at which the minstrels stopped early on the morning of their arrival, and when the gorgeous business manager of the out-

"Well, we clomped all over Washington from 9 o'clock that morning until 5 o'clock in the afternoon, without ever going home for a mouthful to eat, scattering those Haverly handbills around in basement areaways and handing 'em to pedestrians. Eat? Who wanted to eat with such beatific anticipations as free seats at the perform-ance fo Haverly's Mastodon Minstre.s. Adjutant General Corbin has introduced However, as a concession to our mothers, we all did sneak home and grab something we all did sneak home after we'd got to eat off the supper table after we'd got through scattering the handbills, but it was merely a matter of form, and we were all three of us hanging around the old it as soon as he arrives in the morning. theater long before 7 o'clock, waiting for wearing it until he leaves for his home in the appearance of that business manager who had hired us as advertising agents for one admission each.

"He showed up about half-past 7, and we nailed him as soon as we saw him for those three passes. Now, that man was a mean dog, and I'd tell him so if he was nine feet high and I saw him this minute. He was a mean dog and nothing else. He looked at us three anxious kids for only about half a second, and then he passed that we'd been peddling bills for him until our shoes were worn out, but he wouldn't listen to us. 'Git out!' said he, booting us out of the theater and almost all the way down the front steps, blame his infernal

"Well, there we were, and the other kids out in front that were waiting to fall into line to buy gallery tickets when the door opened at 7:30 gave us the hoot. There we were, after our wearisome day in the show and slush, with wet feet, and now with well nigh broken hearts. We stood out there in the cold in front of old Ford's until all of the boys had gone in howling band playing on that portico, anyhow, and we did. but that wasn't much consolation. We had about given up all hope when we saw coming along at a saunter from the avenue the man whose face has perhaps been as much pictured as that of any man that ever lived-Mr. Jack Haverly himself. We waited until he came up the steps and then we just got together and told him our little story, explaining how we'd worked and how we'd been treated for our work.

"'Wait a minute, youngsters,' said this man, whose heart was as big as a fire bucket, and he went inside and we could hear him asking the business manager who had employed us, and who was in the box office, if he had sent three kids out that day to distribute handbills. The business manager replied that he had, but that he couldn't identify them. Haverly came to the door and beckoned us in, and, pass-ing his arm around the three of us, he said to the buisness manager, who poked his head out of the box office window:

"'Are these three the boys?"
"'Yes, I think they are,' replied that mean dog, knowing that we could prove ft.
"'Any boxes left?' inquired Haverly,

carelessly, of the business manager.
"'Yes—one,' replied the fellow.
"'Give me the coupons,' said Haverly, and when he got them he said, 'Come along, boys,' and, passing the ticket taker and the ushers, escorted us right square into one of the upper boxes, the only one Then Haverly pulled out a wad of bills, stripped off three twos and handed each of us one of them, and, with a kindly pat on the head and a still kindlier smile, he went out of the box, and none of us ever saw him after that.

"But we've never forgotten it, and I'd like to see the weather fierce enough to keep us from going to his tomb with some flowers if he were buried within a reasonable distance from Washington." able distance from Washington."

The Nature of Ozone.

From the London Chronicle.

I hear many people chatter about ozone, as Disraeli said young ladies prattled about protoplasm, that is, without so much as knowing what ozone is. There is a prevalent idea that it is "something you get at the sea," and that it is "good for the lungs." What that something is, however, few people have sufficient curiosity to in-quire. Ozone is what chemists call an allotropic form of oxygen—that is to say, it is oxygen in a highly active and concentrated condition. In ordinary pure air ozone exists, but only in what chemists call chemists call 'traces;" larger amounts are found in ocean and mountain air. It instantly disappears when brought in contact with decaying matter, dissipating itself, as it were, in the act of oxidizing that matter. Ozone is known to occur more plentifully during thunderstorms, and we have, of course, the analogy of its being artificially produced from oxygen by electrical discharges in the laboratory. On the body ozone is be nieved to act as a stimulant, hence the popular notion of its beneficial effects as experienced by the sea, but in any greater amount than mere traces it is a violent irritant. One authority goes the length of asserting that it is doubtful whether it is beneficial to animal life at all.

From London Science Gossip. To account for the transmissibility of ancestral types Darwin in his work on "Pangenesis" promulgated a theory that each cell threw off what he designated "gemmules," which formed the nuclei of another series of cells, whose sole destiny in the economy of nature was the propagation of its species. These "gemmules" formed the blastema, in which was contained an ex-ceedingly microscopical impression of the animal which might ultimately be called into being. If this were the case, we should be able to submit the miniature image to our investigation by means of the micro-scope. But strong microscopes are wanted. The red corpuscles of human blood have been measured and the diameter is found to be about one four-thousandth part of an inch. The number of these red corpuscles which would adhere to the point of a needle would not be less than 1,000,000. Theory teaches that the final division of matter is the atom and the atom has been measured. It is calculated that in a cube of water one thirty-thousandth part of an inch wide there are 80,000,000,000 atoms.

Miss Weston—"And have you played much golf, Mr. Jones?"
Mr. Jones—"Well—er, no; can't say I've played much, but I've walked round the links several times in these clothes, and I'm beginning to understand the language."—Tit-Bits. to a few participations of the second

EARNED THEIR TREAT A LITTLE DINNER FOR FOUR HER QUIET WAY WON

"The recent death in Colorado of the head of the Delmonico family of restau-rateurs, and the fact that one of the sons of Charles Dickens is now making a tour of the United States, were a pair of facts that I happened to see the other day in the same issue of a newspaper, and they aroused in my memory the recollection of a little dinner for four that was given in 1868 at the old Delmonico place in 14th street, New York," said one of the veterans | carving fork. "Looks like fried eggplant or among Washington clubmen. "I was not a participant in that dinner, being not Um." nuch more than a lad at the time, but with three other young chaps of my own age I

.Charles Dickens was the central figure in this feed for four. It was after he had made his second lecturing tour of the United States. You will recall how he ripped this country up the back in his 'American Notes,' published after he had made us his first visit in 1842, and how cheap he felt over that book for the remainder of his life. He felt particularly cheap when he came back to us in '68, and we poured coals of fire upon his head by giving him a splendid reception. He declared privately at that time that his 'American Notes' and the digs at the United States contained in 'Martin Chuzzlewit' had been 'the merest very youthful frothing at the mouth' to employ his own frothing at the mouth, to employ his own words, and at a big dinner given to him by the newspaper men on his return to New York from his last lecturing tour he gal-lantly and, I believe, sincerely, 'took back' everything he had ever written about this country, and made an especial arrange-ment with his publishers that the speech of apology which he made on this occasion should forever be included as an appendix to the 'American Notes' and 'Martin Chuzzlewit.' He found things very different here in '68 from what he had found them in '42' of source but for all that them in '42, of course, but, for all that, there can be no doubt that Dickens was extremely sore upon himself for ever hav-ing held this country up to ridicule in the

watched and overheard the fun from a

ncisive, masterly, but unjust manner with which he performed that job.
"Well, this little dinner for four that I started to tell you about was a purely in-formal affair, and it was given to Dickens by three famous New York wits—Lawrence Jerome, more affectionately known to his friends as 'Larry;' the brilliant Charley Sborne, and the finest wit of a generation that is gone, William Travers, the raconteur. Dickens knew these three men well, and he was very fond of them all. - He reveled in a little dinner like this. He was a heavy eater and a much heavier drinker. and he loved to sit around the right kind of a table surrounded by bright men until

"After that dinner had been going on for a couple of hours the talk that was shuttled back and forth by those four was werth listening to, as you may imagine, and I've often wished since that I'd been a shortoften wished since that I'd been a short-hand reporter to catch some of that table talk. We young chaps sitting at the ad-joining table purposely prolonged our meal so that we could 'rubber,' as the boy says, on the talk of that famous quartet. "Jerome, Travers and Osborne quizzed and chaffed Dickens unmercifully from the moment that they sat down, and when the

moment that they sat down, and when the dinner was well under way they got to-gether and hurled broadsides of good-natured guying at the great novelist. Dickens took it all like a little major. He could stand a guying better than any Englishman, great or little, that I ever met-most of them are liable to get sore and surly under such circumstances. Dickens, figuratively speaking, placed both hands up and took it all in good part, and roared over their salles with obvious enjoyment.

lies with obvious enjoyment.

"They were attacking him about his 'American Notes." This dinner took place not long after his apology for that book to the press folks, and so the three knew that they had him—that he had to take it as they gave it to him.

"For instance, Dickens started to tell them what a delightful place he had found a certain western city to be. The stuttering Travers, suddenly pulled a copy of 'American Notes' out of his pocket, ruffled over the leaves and found the page, and began to read, in his halting, sing-song fashion, the awful lambasting that Dickens had given that self-same city in his book about given that self-same city in his book about the United States. Dickens hid his face with his napkin and then ducked his head under the table like a school boy.

After a while, when Dickens thought the roasting was all over, he started in to tell them what a superb place the next fifty years. He was becoming quite eloquent on this topic when 'Larry'
Jerome pulled out of his pocket his own
copy of 'American Notes,' brought along for the occasion, and began to read, with an indescribably humorous drawl, the ex-traordinary stuff that Dickens nad written his head sadly and made deprecatory gestures with his hands, but it was no use— Jerome went right on reading aloud the part in which Dickens declared Washington to be a sort of morass—a city of Magnificent Intentions instead of a City of Magnificent Distances — and so on, until the novelist bowed his head in his hand with pretended

"The three chaffers all of a sudden he ame serious, and Dickens, who had a tendency to become grandiloquent as the theirs, glad, probably, to believe that he was to be guyed no more. He drifted into some rather fine topic—I forget what it was -and in something less than no time he was discoursing like any Cicero or Demosthenes, while the three wits pretended to hang upon his utterances with open mouths. Then, when Dickens had reached a sonorous period, Charley Osborne suddenly reached into his coat pocket, pulled out his own private copy of 'American Notes,' turned to a page where the leaf was turned down, solemnly rose in his place and motioned for silence and began to read with a splendid mimicry of the voice and gestures of a tragedian from Dickens' description of the Falls of Niagara. You will remember that, while that's a pretty good piece of writing, it's considerably overdone, as Dickens him-self confessed afterward; it's high-falutin'—

what you'd call 'dem'd fine writin'.'
"Well, the effect was very funny Osborne and Travers and Jerome rumpled up their hair and pretended to be in ecstasies over the beauties of the description as poured forth in Osborne's deep, resonant bass, and they scowled horribly at Dickens when the novelist leaned back in his seat and howled with mirth—he was purple from laughter. time when Dickens' manager—the poor fel-low recently died of drunkenness and old age, an outcast, in London-appeared and literally dragged the novelist to fulfill his lecturing engagement that evening."

An English Minister of Today.

From the Spectator. Everybody has an opinion about everything, the number of the well informed has enormously increased, and the house of commons, though it knows quite well that there must be in most cases half a dozen good alternative plans of which the min-ister can only adopt one, usually listens with a sort of chuckle to well-worded descriptions of the other five. A minister nowadays requires the temper of an angel and even when he possesses one he has to be patient under a tedium, "the drip, drip, drip of dilatory debate," among men three-quarters informed, which is to many a nearly unbearable form of mental torture. nearly unbearable form of mental torture. Imagine listening to a sermon of six hours on a text only too well known, and then think what Mr. Belfour has to put up with on an education night, or a night devoted to the comparative merits of steamers boilers. The demand made on the intellect and the knowledge and the temper is almost unendurable, and, but that politicians train themselves to a kind of self-control akin to that of an expert witness under train themselves to a kind of self-control akin to that of an expert witness under cross-examination, would produce nightly explosions semetimes witnessed in a vestry suspected of too much tolerance for jobbing. The politician has, in fact, come to resemble rather an overworked, underpaid, and much badgered professional rather than the successful man who fifty years ago was the envy not only of his rivals, but of that whole upper crust of the nation which was capable of understanding his achievements.

Highest of Waterfalls. From the Land of Sunshine,

The highest waterfall in the world, geography tells us, is the Cerosola Cascade in the Aips, having a fall of 2,400 feet; that of Arvey, in Savoy, is 1,100 feet, and the falls of Yosemite Valley range from 700 to 1,000 feet. But higher yet is the waterfall in the San Cuayatan canon, in the state of Durango, Maxico. It was discovered by some proposestors. covered by some prospectors, ten years ago, in the great barranca district which is called the Tierras Desconocidas. While searching for the famous lost mine, Naranjal, a great roar of water was heard. With great difficulty the party pushed on, and up and down the mighty chasms until they beheld the superb fall that is at least 3,000 feet high.

About two weeks ago Mrs. Jobson was called to the basement door by a persistent and garrulous peddler while she was preparing dinner, with the result that the steak which she was broiling reached the table very slightly overdone. Mr. Jobson, of course, could not let a chance like that get away from him.

"Um-charred to a frazzle," he remarked, gloomily, poking at the steak with the a piece of fricasseed elephant's epidermis.

Mr. Jobson dropped the carving knife and fork, studied the ceiling for a moment with a scowl, and then fixed Mrs. Jobson with

a penetrating gaze.

"Mrs. Jobson," he announced with all of the sepulchral solemnity of a mediaeval royal heraid, "this establishment is to be broken up on the 1st of October coming." Mrs. Jobson coughed slightly and dished out the succotash.

"For many months past," went on Mr. Jobson, in the tone of one orally publishing an edict, "I have observed that you have lost interest in your home—the home that I have provided for you by toiling and moiling like a galley slave. There was a time when you took pleasure, or pretended to take pleasure, in the proper preparation of your husband's meals. That time, I grieve to say, has now passed. There was a time when you professed to find delight in keeping this household in a state of scrupulous tidiness. Now, I am pained to state a general atmosphere of negligence state, a general atmosphere of negligence and slouchiness pervades this entire estab-lishment from cellar to garret."

Mrs. Jobson began upon her dinner with apparent enjoyment. apparent enjoyment.
"I have endeavored," proceeded Mr. Jobson in a tone of noble self-effacement, "to close my eyes to these all-too-obvious indications on your part of your cessation of interest in and attachment to your home; but the time has now arrived when I am no longer able to screen from my view the palpable abhorrence with which you un-questionably regard this humble, but at

one time comfortable, establishment. Mr. Jobson paused for a moment to see whether he was going to get a rise out of Mrs. Jobson or not. She remained silent, devoting herself with manifest enjoyment

to the succotash.

"And so," went on Mr. Jobson in the sorrowful tone of one about to be involuntarily exiled, "it has all come to an end. This home, in which I had hoped to spend, in peace and comfort, my declining years, is now a home in name only. Its natural guardian and caretaker now nourishes in her bosom a positive hatred for it. It were idle for me to contend with such a situa-Mrs Johson neither denving nor affirm-

ing the allegation, gave herself some of the mushrooms with which the steak was THE ORIONIDS METEORS garnished, and went on with her meal.
"While I feel," continued Mr. Jobson dismally, "the utter impossibility of bring ing you to a realizing sense of the unhappi ness which you have caused and still cause me in this attitude of yours toward our home, nevertheless I am forced to act. Madame, we break up housekeeping and go to boarding about two weeks from now-namely, on October 1."

Mrs. Jobson broke off a bit of bread and

Mrs. Jobson broke off a bit of bread and glanced abstractedly at a calendar hanging upon the wall. But she said nothing. "Perhaps," said Mr. Jobson, "after you have been living the precarious existence of a Washington boarder for a period you will arrive at a feeling of what it was that you gave up in forcing me, by your own negligence, to close up this home. I earn-

estly trust so, at any rate."
"Have you decided," inquired Mrs. Jobson, amiably, "where we are to board?"
"No," replied Mr. Jobson, sadly, with a deep sigh, "I have not as yet, but I shall attend to that. I shall see that you are put to no trouble, understanding, as I thoroughly do, how distasteful all exertion is to you. I shall make all the arrangements and I shall find a place that, I hope, will be suitable to you, where you will have nothing whatsoever to do the livelong day except to sit in a rocking chair and read flash literature and discuss your husband from the most unfavorable point of view with all the rest of the married women boarders engaged in doing exactly the

do will be to superintend the packing. 1 do the actual work, but I trust I may request that you exercise a proper supervis-ion over their labors. I would recommend that in about a week's time you begin the that in about a week's time you begin the preliminary work looking to the getting together of this household's possessions in the speediest and most effectual manner. I desire to have you distinctly understand, and therefore repeat the fact, that we give up the key to this house on September 30, and that we leave the house behind on the morning of October the first."

Mrs. Johson slightly inclined her head

Mrs. Jobson slightly inclined her head, and Mr. Jobson went ahead with his dinner, carefully avoiding even touching the ver-slightly overdone steak, which, notwith standing its being very slightly overdone

was really delicious.

Mr. Jobson was whistling quite merrily before breakfast the next morning, and while the meal was preparing he was prowling around the neat back yard, training some morning glories on the fence, and otherwise busying himself enjoyably in his

Nevertheless, a week ago yesterday Mrs Nevertheless, a week age Jobson started in to be real busy after Mr. Jobson had gone to his office. She began the regular autumn housecleaning. The the regular autumn housecleaning. The regular autumn housecleaning in the Job son establishment means a torn-up abode for at least three days. When Mr. Jobson stepped jauntily into the vestibule that evening, whistling one of the airs of the street, his home was a sight. It looked as if it had been picked up by the Mississippi at a time of flood and carried about 300 miles down stream. There was a crafty look in Mrs. Jobson's eyes when she heard Mr. Jobson opening the front door.

There was a blank look on his face when

he stepped into the hall and surveyed the heaped-up furniture, the rolled-up matting, and the scene of general desolation.

and the scene of general desolation.

"Well, I've begun, you see," remarked
Mrs. Jobson, cheerfully. "Have you found
a place yet?"

"Pl-pl-place?" stammered Mr. Jobson,
very red. "What kind of a place? What
d'ye mean, anyhow?"

"Why, a boarding house," answered Mrs.
Lobson, in Jobson in a matter-of-fact tone. "You know we are to give this house up on October the first and go to boarding, and I've begun to do the packing. I thought sure you'd have a boarding house picked out by this time."

this time."
"Mr. Jobson plumped into a chair, pushed and hot forehead and his hat back from his hot forehead, and stared at Mrs. Jobson.

"Madam," he inquired weakly and hoarse-ly, "have you lost your reason? To my cer-tain knowledge I haven't mentioned the word boarding for twenty-two years. This is a scheme, a conspiracy, on your part. You are deliberately trying to wreck my home. Moreover, you are trying to make me responsible for it. Boarding house, eh? All ight, if that's your game, you go ahead and board; but any time you ever see me in a boarding house, just you wire my folks, that's all, and if I don't see to it that they land me in a bughouse in less than twenty-four hours then my name isn't Jobson! Gimme my dinner and stop this non-

From Pearson's Magazine. Du Plooy, so far as it is known is the only Boer prisoner in Bermuda who has succeeded in obtaining his liberty, although several stories are told of prisoners evading the vigilance of the guards in the prison camps and escaping to the main island.

In making these attempts the Boers prove
themselves to be exceedingly enterprising. One man under cover of darkness made a number of breathing holes in a big packing case which, with its cover knocked off, was lying on the beach. The following morning, during the bathing hour, he succeeded to get his head inside it. He had taken the precaution to knot a piece of cord through two of the breathing holes in what had been the bottom, but as it floated was the top of the box. Holding to this with one hand, he swam along witl the receding tide so idly that to the guards it appeared that the packing case was being carried at random on the waves. It so happened, however, that the envious eyes of a sailor on one of the British gunboats fell upon this box as it drifted past, and wood being scarce, he obtained permission from an officer to drag it aboard. One can conceive his amazement when he found beneath it a living Boer!

First Citisen-"But if Europe dine against us in a trade war?" Second Citizen—"All right! If they want a trade war we'll sell them all the ammunition they need."



Positions of the Principal Stars which are above the Horizon October 1-15-31, at 9-8-7 p.m.

OCTOBER

Milky Way Arches Now From Northeast to Southwest.

CONSTELLATIONS EASY TO LOCATE

Discovery of the First Spectroscopic Binary Star.

Written for The Evening Star.

Five stars of the first magnitude are now above the horizon at 9 p.m. They are Fomalhaut, low in the south; Vega and Altair, in midheavens in the west, the former on our right, the latter on our left, as we face in that direction; Capella, in the northeast, at about the same altitude as Fomalhaut; Aldebaran, barely above the horizon a little north of east.

Constellations.

The Milky Way now passes at the hour named very nearly overhead, arching the heavens in a direction from northeast to southwest. In it or along it are the constellations Sagittarius, partly below the horizon in the southwest, Ophiuchus, the Eagle, the Dolphin, the Swan, Cepheus, Cassiopela, Perseus and Auriga.

Auriga, the Wagoner, can be located by

means of the brilliant star Capella, the She-goat, which stands in his left shoulder, his right being marked by the star Beta, of the second magnitude. Casslopeia, the Lady-in-her-chair, is easily identified from the W-shaped figure formed by its five brighter stars. Midway between Capella and the lowest of the bright stars in Cassi-opela, at the right of a straight line drawn same thing."

Mrs. Jobson snipped herself off another small piece of steak and applied herself to stands Alpha Persel, a star of the second stands Alpha Persel and stands Alpha Persel an small piece of steak and applied herself to stands Alpha Persel, a star of the second it.

"The furniture shall be stored," went on constellation, lying in the Milky Way, is constellation, lying in the Milky Way, is earth's. It seemed possible that under rich in stars, containing, according to Burritt, sixty-seven that are visible to the naked eye. An elongated group of a dozen or more forms the body; the right hand is raised aloft, as the constellation is depicted upon charts, and brandishes a sword, while the left holds by its snaky locks the frightful Medusa head, in the forehead of which stands the famous variable star Begol, the Demon.

At the right of Perseus (the observer's right) and in midheavens in the east reclines Andromeda. Still farther to the east and at a greater altitude is Pegasus. A large dipper-shaped group of seven stars of the second magnitude forms the basis of these three constellations and renders their location easy. The great square of Pega-sus forms the bowl of this dipper; Alpha Persel forms the end of the handle, while the two other stars of the handle and one of the four which form the square belong

to Andromeda.

Midway between Andromeda and the eastern horizon is a conspicuous pair of stars, one of the second and one of the third magnitude, which mark the head of Aries, the Ram. Below and at the left of Aries stands the well-known cluster of the Pleiades, in the shoulder of Taurus, the Bull, whose head, marked by the star Aldebaran and the cluster of the Hyades, has but just now appeared above the horizon. but just now appeared above the horizon.

Below and at the right of the head of Aries, forming with it and the Pleiades a large equilateral triangle, is Menkar, a star of the second magnitude, in the head of Cerus. Deneb Kaitos, also a star of the second magnitude in the tail of this men second magnitude, in the tail of this mon-ster, stands in the southeast at about three-fifths of the distance from Menkar to Fomalhaut. Cetus is one of the largest of the constellations, but the region it cov-ers is generally poor in stars. The constel-lation is interesting chiefly for its remarkable variable star Omicron, better known as Mira, the Wonderful. The range of the va-riability of this star, the period of which is about eleven months, is from the ninth to the third and occasionaly to the second magnitude. The last maximum of Mira, when it was of about the third magnitude, occurred near the close of last June. The star is not now visible to the naked

Among the stars that may be seen this

evening are several which have been brought into prominence through investigation with the spectroscope. One of the easiest to locate of these very interesting stars is Mizar (Zeta Ursae Majoris), the middle star in the handle of the Great Dipper. With even a small telescope Mizar can be seen to be a double star, and a very pretty object it is for such an instrument. It is said, indeed, to be the first discovered of the double stars, of which several thousand are now catalogued, and probably be-cause of the ease with which it can be identified it has been the first double star seen by many an amateur telescopist, as it was the first ever seen by the present

Some twelve years ago Prof. E. C. Pickering, director of the Harvard College ob-servatory, announced that from an examservatory, announced that from an examination of a series of photographs of the spectrum of Mizar it had been discovered that there was a periodical doubling of the dark lines of this spectrum, whence he concluded that there were really two spectra in the case, one superposed upon the other, or, in other words, that there were two stars here, although the pair which they formed was so close as to be unresolvable with the largest telescope. The doubling of the lines, due to a slight relative shifting of the spectra, could be accounted for easily on a well-established spectroscopic principle by the supposition that the two stars were revolving about that the two stars were revolving about each other in a plane set nearly edgewise to us. The doubling occurred at intervals of fifty-two days, and since the explana-tion required that it should occur twice in each revolution this gave the star a period

of 104 days.

Thus was made the first discovery of a "spectroscopic binary star." The list of such stars—that is to say, of stars which though they appear single even when examined through the largest telescope, are found by means of the spectroscope to conamined through the largest telescope, are found by means of the spectroscope to consist of two stars revolving one about the other, like the two balls of a dumb-bell tossed into the air—is already quite a long one. The first four or five of these stars were discovered at the Harvard College observatory, the second on the list being Beta Aurigae. The most of the recent discoveries of this kind have been made at the Lick observatory.

To return to Mizar, Dr. H. C. Vogel, director of the Potsdam observatory, has reported recently that from a series of photographs taken in the spring of this year with the new refractor of that observatory he has found the period of this binary star to be 20.6 days instead of 104 days, as has

hitherto been supposed. Vogel deduces from his observations that the combined mass of the two stars which form the double system is about four times that of the sun, and that the orbit in which they circle around each other, or rather around their common center of gravity, is considerably smaller than that of the planet Mercury. Vogel's conclusion, if confirmed, will very probably explain a certain irregularity announced some time ago by Prof. Pickering to have been noted in the doubling of the lines in the star's spectrum.

At the Lick Observatory. Four or five years ago Prof. W. W. Campbell, the present director of the Lick observatory, began with the great telescope of that observatory a series of systematic spectrographic observations, with a special list of some 325 stars, for the purpose of determining the velocities of the motion of these stars "in the line of sight"—that is, toward us or from us. One very unexpected and very interesting result of this investi-gation has been the discovery that many of these stars have a variable velocity, which indicates that they have orbital movements—that they are "spectroscopic binaries." Not less than thirty-one of the stars on Professor Campbell's list have been found to be of this character. Among

Campbell finds that the Pole star is not merely a binary, but is a triple system. The variation of its movement is such as to indicate that the bright star circles about an invisible companion in a period of a trifle less than four days, while this binary pair revolves about a third dark body in an as yet undetermined period, probably of several years. This discovery was made in August, 1899. A continuation of his obser-vations of the star has enabled him to deduce that the period of the binary system is 3 days 23 hours 14.3 minutes. Campbell's conclusions regarding this star have re-cently been confirmed in every particular by Dr. J. Hartmann, at the Potsdam observatory. Hartmann's cetimate of the period of the binary system differs from

them are the Pole star and the brilliant

Campbell's by only three seconds.

The binary character of Capella was discovered independently by Professor Campbell at the Lick observatory, and by Mr. H. F. Newall, from observations made at Cambridge, England. In the case of this starbeth companyers are luminous. They are both components are luminous. They appear to be about equal in mass and not very different in brightness. Mr. Newall has calculated that the radius of the orbit is probably between 52,000,000 and 104,000,would be far enough apart to be seen sep arately with a telescope, and a series of observations made at Greenwich between April and December of last year for the purpose of testing this matter are reported to have been successful. Although the two components were not actually separated with the telescope, the disc of the star's image was seen unmistakably to be elongated at those times when the components gated at those times when the components should, according to calculation, be the farthest apart. Observations made at the Lick observatory last summer with the same object in view had, however, a different result. Not the slightest elongation of the star's disc could be detected, though

on at least one occasion the "seeing"

The 19th of this month is the date for the appearance of the meteors known as Orionids, their radiant-the point from which they seem to shoot-being in the constellation Orion. This system usually gives us a fairly fine display, and it will be well to bear the date in mind. The best of the dis-

play occurs after midnight. The "Demon" Star. Minima of the variable star Algol will occur this month as follows: On the 5th at midnight, on the 8th at 9 p.m., on the 28th

at 11 p.m., on the 31st at 8 p.m.—time given to the nearest hour. The Planets.

Mercury will be visible as an evening star until near the close of the month. It will be at its greatest brilliancy on the 20th. Look for it at a low altitude south of west. Venus is now a fine evening star, although of only about one-third of her brilliancy when at her brightest. On the 10th of the month she will be in conjunction with Mars. Like Mercury, Venus is now seen considerably south of west.

seen considerably south of west.

Mars is still an evening star, but not very brilliant. It is moving eastward. During the month it will pass from Libra into Scorpio, and at the end of the month it will be about six degrees northeast of Antares, setting at about 7 p.m.

Jupiter and Saturn are still conspicuous evening stars in Sagittarius. Both are trav-eling eastward. Jupiter faster than Saturn, so that the interval between them is closing up. Uranus, in the Scorpion, ten degree northeast of Antares, is also an evening star, setting about an hour before Jupiter

Roads in Europe. From the American Asphalt Journal.

Two hundred years ago England had the worst roads in the world, because the peasantry living on the roads alone were required to work them. In speaking of them Macauley says "that a route connecting two great towns which have a large and flourishing trade with each other should be maintained at the cost of the rural population scattered between them is manifestly unjust. It was not until many toll bars had been violently pulled down, until the troops had in many instances been forced to act against the people, and until much blood had been shed that a good system was introduced." Every class now constitute to the male transport of the real was introduced. Every class now contributes to the maintenance of the road system in England. The French have probably the most efficient laws and regulations in the world for the building and repairing of highways. The minister of public works has the general superintendence of all roads and ways by land and by water. There are four classes of road recognized There are four classes of road recognized by law, namely: (I) national, (2) departmental, (3) military, (4) cross roads. National roads are built and kept up by the national treasury. Departmental roads are a charge upon the departments through which they pass, and part of the military roads are kept up by the government and a part by the departments through which the roads pass.

The cross roads are kept up by the com-

the roads pass.

The cross roads are kept up by the communes, though sometimes in thinly populated regions these communes receive assistance from the government, especially when these roads become of importance.

The national roads are paved like a street, having an average width of 52% feet. The departmental roads are 39 feet wide, and the military and cross roads are of variable width. Piles of broken stone are placed at convenient distances and a man is constantly employed in repairing each section.

From the Chicago News.

He—"Woman. you know, is the weake